KARNATAKA ELECTRICITY SUPPLY UNDERTAKINGS (ACQUISITION) (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1978.

Motion to Consider

†SRI K.H. SRINIVAS (Minister of State for Information and Youth Services): Sir, I beg to move:—

"That the Karnataka Electricity Supply Undertakings) (Acquisition) (Amendment) Bill, 1978 be taken into consideration."

The question was proposed

Sir, this is a bill to amend section 13(3) of the Karnataka Electricity Supply Undertakings (Acquisition) (Amendment) Bill, 1974. According to the provisions of Karnataka Electricity Supply Undertakings (Acquisition) Act, 1974 as many as seven private electricity supply undertakings have been taken over by the Government and while doing so it was contemplated that certain disputes between the Government and the Undertakings would arise. There is also provision under Section 14 of the original Act to refer such disputes to the Tribunal to be constituted by the Government. But these disputes will certainly be pertaining to the transactions which have taken place after a particular date that is 1st January 1972 and before the vested date these transactions can be disputed by the Government and can be referred to the Tribunal. But before any dispute could arise the accounts of all the undertakings have to be audited. Now what has happened is, some of these Undertakings which have been taken over by the Government have filed Writ Petitions in the High Court. And in some other cases the accounts are yet to be completed. They have not completed the audited statement and as such there is yet no scope for raising dispute as such.

In the original enactment there was one year stipulated for raising such a dispute. Subsequently in view of the circumstances which have been mentioned by me, the time has been extended by one year twice. That extended period also has expired recently but as the matters are pending before the High Court and the accounts have not yet been audited, Government has not been in a position to refer any dispute to the Tribunal. As such, the Government has felt it necessary to extend this period which was originally stipulated for enabling the Government to refer these disputes to a Tribunal by another two years. With that object in view, this amending Bill has been brought before this House. It is a simple amendment which seeks only to empower and enable the Government to refer the dispute to a Tribunal to be constituted by the Government is in a position to

know the audited accounts of the undertakings. Therefore, I solicit the unanimous support of this House for this simple amending Bill.

MR. SPEAKER.—The question is :

"That the Karnataka Electricity Supply Undertakings (Acquisition) (Amendment) Bill, 1978 be taken into consideration".

The motion was adopted

CLAUSE 2

MR. SPEAKER.—The question is :

"That clause 2 do stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

CLAUSE 1 etc.

MR. SPEAKER.—The question is :

"That clause 1, the Long Title, the Preamble and the Enacting Formula do stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted

Clause 1, the long Title, the Preamble and the Enacting Formula were added to the Bill.

MOTION TO PASS

SRI K.H. SRINIVAS.—I beg to move :

"That the Karnataka Electricity Supply Undertakings (Acquisition) (Amendment) Bill, 1978 be passed."

MR. SPEAKER.—The question is :

"That the Karnataka Electricity Supply Undertakings (Acquisition) (Amendment) Bill, 1978, be passed."

The motion was adopted and the Bill was passed.